

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 20 (Canceled).

Claim 21. (New) A monoclonal antibody reactive with a β (1-3) - and/or a β (1-3) (1-6)-glucan associated epitope in free form, in cell wall fragments or on an intact cell surface.

Claim 22. (New) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein said β (1-3) - and/or β (1-3) (1-6)-glucan associated epitope is available in cell wall fragments of *C. albicans* and/or *C. neoformans*, or on the cell surface of *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. krusei*, *C. glabrata* and/or *C. neoformans*.

Claim 23. (New) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein said antibody is A10A.

Claim 24. (New) A method for the diagnosis of a fungal infection comprising assaying with at least one antibody according to claim 21.

Claim 25. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein said fungal infection is *Candida vaginitis* or mucocutane candidiasis.

Claim 26. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein said diagnosis is performed on mucosal secretions or urine.

Claim 27. (New) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 21.

Claim 28. (New) A method for diagnosing fungal infections comprising performing an assay for the detection of β (1-3)-glucans in a sample using a monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein the presence of β (1-3)-glucans indicates a fungal infection in said patient.

Claim 29. (New) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 22, wherein said antibody is A10A.

Claim 30. (New) A method for the diagnosis of a fungal infection comprising assaying with at least one antibody according to claim 22.

Claim 31. (New) A method for the diagnosis of a fungal infection comprising assaying with at least one antibody according to claim 23.

Claim 32. (New) A method for the diagnosis of a fungal infection comprising assaying with at least one antibody according to claim 29.

Claim 33. (New) A method according to claim 25, wherein said diagnosis is performed on mucosal secretions or urine.

Claim 34. (New) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 22.

Claim 35. (New) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 23.

Claim 36. (New) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 29.

Claim 37. (New) A method for diagnosing fungal infections comprising performing an assay for the detection of $\beta(1-3)$ -glucans in a sample using a monoclonal antibody according to claim 22, wherein the presence of $\beta(1-3)$ -glucans indicates a fungal infection in said patient.

Claim 38. (New) A method for diagnosing fungal infections comprising performing an assay for the detection of $\beta(1-3)$ -glucans in a sample using a monoclonal antibody according to claim 23, wherein the presence of $\beta(1-3)$ -glucans indicates a fungal infection in said patient.

Claim 39. (New) A method for diagnosing fungal infections comprising performing an assay for the detection of β (1-3)-glucans in a sample using a monoclonal antibody according to claim 29, wherein the presence of β (1-3)-glucans indicates a fungal infection in said patient.